New items on your 2022 Property Tax Statement

Mason County Clean Water District Assessment

In May of 2021 the Board of Mason County Commissioners created a shellfish protection district called the Mason County Clean Water District pursuant to RCW 90.72 and under Resolution 2021-023. The district was established to create clean water programs intended to improve water quality by eliminating or reducing nonpoint pollution sources.

If your property lies with the boundaries of the Mason County Clean Water District, the assessment for 2022 is \$5.06.

You can find more information about the Mason County Clean Water District by going online to https://masoncountywa.gov/health/environmental/water-quality/index.php or by contacting the environmental health staff at 360-427-9670, extension 400.

Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Assessments

These are fees collected by county treasurer's on behalf of Department of Natural Resources. The fees contribute to funding preparation and response to wildfire by the Department of Natural Resources. These fees are in addition to the taxes collected for your local fire districts.

<u>Forest Fire Protection Assessment (FFPA)</u> is a fee paid by private landowners and exempt entities to help DNR pay for the cost of preparing to fight wildfire (firefighter training, purchasing engines, aircraft and equipment).

It is identified on your tax statement as DNR Fire Control Tax (FPA) \$17.00 + acreage if any and Fire Fee \$.50. The base fee for 2022 is \$17.50 + \$.27 for each acre exceeding 50 acres.

<u>Landowner Contingency Forest Fire Suppression Assessment (LOC)</u> is a fee paid by private landowners and exempt entities to pay for emergency fire suppression when a paying landowner starts a fire during a landowner operation. This fee is paid in conjunction with the Forest Fire Protection Assessment.

It is identified on your tax statement as DNR Fire Control Tax (LCF). The base fee for 2022 is \$6.00 + up to \$.15 cents for each per acre exceeding 50 acres. This fee was increased from \$.40 cents in previous years.

If you pay FFPA on multiple parcels in the same county, each parcel is 50 acres or less and all the parcels are in the same taxpayer name, you may be eligible for a partial refund. Refunds do not apply to the LOC Assessments. For more information and to access refund application forms, please go to http://dnr.wa.gov/ffpa or call the DNR Wildlife Division at 360-902-1300.

You can find more information about DNR Assessments by going on line at http://dnr.wa.gov/ffpa or by calling Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Division at 360-902-1300.